

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 01420 121949Z

73 R

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 ONY-00 /011 W

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P R 121920Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3122

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 1420

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, GY

SUBJECT: LOCAL REACTION TO BICENTENNIAL

REF: A) STATE 169682 B) GEORGETOWN 1307

1. BICENTENNIAL RECEPTION I HOSTED AT THE RESIDENCE DREW ATTENDANCE OF OVER 400. PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM AND PRESIDENT CHUNG BOTH ATTENDED AS DID NEARLY ALL CABINET MINISTERS WHO WERE IN TOWN.

2. PUBLIC REACTION, HOWEVER, WAS MINIMAL. THE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY (PPP) NEWSPAPER "THE MIRROR" CARRIED ON JULY 4 A SHORT CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO THE UNITED STATES. "GUYANA CHRONICLE" OF JULY 4 INCLUDED ITS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE IN GENERAL EDITORIAL ON CELEBRATION OF CARICOM DAY, VENEZUELAN INDEPENDENCE, AND U.S. BICENTENNIAL. "CHRONICLE" ALSO FRONT PAGED PM BURNHAM'S MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT FORD (WITH EQUAL SPACE GIVEN TO SIMILARLY WORDED CONGRATULATIONS TO VENEZUELA ON ITS JULY 5 NATIONAL DAY). GOVT CONTROLLED RADIO GBS AND PRIVATE RADIO DEMERARA BROADCAST WIRE SERVICE REPORTS ON BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES IN U.S. OVER 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND.

3. USIS TRIED TO PLACE IN "CHRONICLE" ONE WIRELESS FILE ARTICLE ON U.S. BICENTENNIAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR 4TH OF JULY

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PAGE 02 GEORGE 01420 121949Z

WEEKEND IN U.S. ARTICLE WAS NOT PUBLISHED DESPITE FACT THAT BOTH

PAO AND I SPOKE WITH EDITOR ABOUT IT ON JULY 5 AND SEEMED
TO GET HIS CONCURRENCE. EDITOR EXCUSED NON-PUBLICATION EARLIER
BY SAYING STAFF RELUCTANT TO PUBLISH FAVORABLE ABOUT U.S.
WITHOUT OBTAINING PERMISSION FROM "ON HIGH". EVENTS SEEMED TO
CONFIRM REF B WHICH REPORTED MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE
FIELD-RIDLEY ORDERED MEDIA NOT TO RUN STORIES ON U.S. BICENTENNIAL.
MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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